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Work and Workers.

A COMPLETE index to the *Journal of Biblical Literature*, for the entire twenty volumes since its foundation, is published with Part II of the *Journal* for 1901. The series contains much material of permanent value, almost exclusively from American scholars.

A PAMPHLET capable of removing much of the fog which for many people surrounds the Bible at the present time is that by Professor A. W. Anthony, of the Cobb Divinity School, Lewiston, Me., entitled "The Higher Criticism in the New Testament." Briefly, simply, and pointedly he indicates the nature and the mission of the historical method of the study of the Bible.

REV. T. WITTON DAVIES, B.A., PH.D., principal and professor of theology at the Midland Baptist College, Nottingham, Eng., has accepted the dual positions of professor of Semitic languages at the University of Wales, Bangor, N. Wales, and of professor of Old Testament literature at the Baptist College in the same city. Previous to taking up his new work, Dr. Davies spent a semester in study at Strassburg.

A NEW course of lessons in the Bible Study Union series is entitled "Foundation Truths," and is the work of Rev. W. C. Bitting, D.D., of New York city. Gospel material in general chronological order is drawn upon for "practical and doctrinal lessons," and the pupil is guided in a manner to train him in correct processes of interpretation. Certainly we have here an attractive and useful course of study for Bible classes.

PROFESSOR GEORGE F. MOORE, D.D., who had occupied the chair of Hebrew at Andover Theological Seminary since 1883, entered upon his new professorship of comparative religion in Harvard University last autumn. His brother, Rev. E. C. Moore, D.D., pastor of the Central Congregational Church, Providence, R. I., has now been elected to a chair of theology in the same institution, and will begin his work next September.

AN event of large significance in the history of American Judaism is the acceptance of the presidency of the New York Theological Seminary by Dr. Solomon Schechter, who comes to this country from

Cambridge University, where he was reader in Rabbinics. In this former position he had made a reputation for conservative but solid scholarship, and his coming to the United States is felt by the Jewish scholars of America to be an important addition to the forces which make for the advancement of Judaism here. The seminary with which he is to be connected now enters upon a new career with \$200,000 of new funds and with a new board of trustees, of which Dr. Cyrus Adler is to be the president. Formerly the seminary was narrowly orthodox; it will remain conservative under the new management, but larger ideas, better scholarship, and more practical aims are expected to characterize its work.

THE SOCIETY OF BIBLICAL LITERATURE AND EXEGESIS.

The thirty-seventh meeting of the society was held in Columbia University, New York, on December 27 and 28. By the courteous invitation of Professor John Williams White, of Cambridge, president of the Archaeological Institute of America, the two societies met in joint session on Friday afternoon, the 27th. It was noticeable that every one of the nine papers at that session appeared to be of equal interest to the members of each society—a proof, if any were needed, of the increasing fraternity between biblical and secular sciences. Professor E. Y. Hincks, of Andover, president of the Exegetical Society (to use the familiar condensation of its long name), opened with a stimulating paper on “Some Tendencies and Results of Recent New Testament Study.” Among the other papers at that session two might be specified: “The Tell Sandahannah Figurines,” by Professor T. F. Wright, of Cambridge, and “New Observations on Architectural Refinements in Italian Churches,” by Professor W. H. Goodyear, of Brooklyn. Both these were illustrated by the stereopticon.

The youngest child of the Exegetical Society, a witness to the persistent zeal of the lamented Professor Thayer, is the American School of Oriental Research in Palestine, whose first report was presented at this meeting. Professor C. C. Torrey, of Yale University, was director of the school during the year 1900–1901, and made a good beginning in securing a foothold in Jerusalem, with the nucleus of a library, and with some promising openings for research, which Professor H. G. Mitchell, the present director, is following up.

At Friday evening's session, after the routine business, five papers were read. Hon. S. J. Barrows spoke from personal observation on “The Translation of the New Testament into Modern Greek, with

Reference to the Recent Disturbance at Athens." Of the other papers, that by Professor Bacon, entitled "What Was the Sign of Jonah?" showed a marked departure from current views; when published it is sure to attract attention and discussion. And but for the lack of time Professor Kent's paper, "The Story of Cain and Abel," would hardly have passed unchallenged. The truth is that the advantage of a joint session was partly neutralized by the diminished time for that friendly comparison of views which has always been prominent in the meetings of the society. Accordingly, when the question of its future policy in similar cases was informally mooted outside the sessions, opinions were divided, one extreme being humorously expressed thus by one of our best-known scholars: "I hold that since the invention of printing the reading of papers is an anachronism. What we meet for is discussion."

At Saturday's session opportunity was made for discussion, for when business had been dispatched, the time from 10 to 1:20 was given solidly to the reading of papers and to comment upon them. Eleven papers were presented, among them one by Professor George A. Barton, of Bryn Mawr College, on "The Jewish-Christian Doctrine of the Pre-Existence of the Messiah," which traversed at some points the conclusions of Professor Bacon's paper of the previous evening, and naturally called out the varying views of the New Testament critics present. But perhaps the most animated discussion was upon a paper by Professor Torrey, "An Important Series of Interpolations in Deutero-Isaiah." These interpolations, he held, include the passages relating to Cyrus and Babylon, which being removed, Isaiah, chaps. 40-66, becomes a magnificent unity, the product of a single master-mind, who probably flourished in the fifth century B. C. "Important, if true," all will admit; and the truth of something very like this is fully believed by the present reporter.

WILLIAM H. COBB.

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